

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q92733

Masahiro NOMURA

Appln. No.: 10/565,190

Group Art Unit: 2816

Confirmation No.: 9238

Examiner: Hiep NGUYEN

Filed: January 20, 2006

For: MULTI-SUPPLY-VOLTAGE SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

REQUEST FOR REFUND

MAIL STOP 16

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby respectfully requests a refund in the amount of \$180.00. This refund is to be credited to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

The Examiner failed to initial all of the references listed on the PTO Form 1449 submitted on January 20, 2006, thus Applicant submitted a copy of the PTO Form 1449 with the Amendment filed August 14, 2007, for acknowledgement.

Copies of the August 2007 Deposit Account Monthly Statement showing the charge of \$180.00 to our account, the partially initialed PTO Form 1449, Information Disclosure Statement filed January 20, 2006 and the Remarks section of the Amendment filed August 14, 2007 are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

/Howard L. Bernstein/ hlb
Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 30, 2008

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q92733

Masahiro NOMURA

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 20, 2006

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MULTI-SUPPLY-VOLTAGE SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-347764, published December 15, 2000 (with English Abstract).
2. Japanese Patent Publication No. 7-287699, published October 31, 1995 (with English Abstract).
3. Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-39868, published February 12, 1999 (with English Abstract).

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
National Stage Entry of PCT/JP2004/010096

4. Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-41090, published February 12, 1999 (with English Abstract).

5. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-78405, published March 14, 2003 (with English Abstract).

6. Japanese Patent Publication No. 9-148914, published June 6, 1997 (with English Abstract).

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for those listed in the International Search Report. It is assumed that copies of the cited references from the International Search Report will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned will undertake to provide them upon request.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

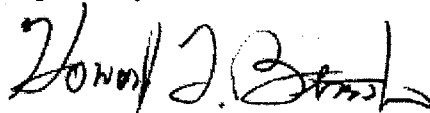
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents Applicant submits the International Search Report which cites reference Nos. 4-6 and indicates the degree of relevance found by the Foreign Office. Applicant also states that reference Nos. 1-3 are enclosed with English Abstracts.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
National Stage Entry of PCT/JP2004/010096

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665

Date: January 20, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Confirmation Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	January 20, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Masahiro NOMURA
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet 1 of 1				Attorney Docket Number	Q92733

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2000-347764	A	12-15-2000	HITACHI LTD	Abstract
		JP	7-287699	A	10-31-1995	HITACHI LTD	Abstract
		JP	11-39868	A	02-12-1999	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Abstract
		JP	11-41090	A	02-12-1999	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Abstract
		JP	2003-78405	A	03-14-2003	TOSHIBA CORP	Abstract
		JP	9-148914	A	06-06-1997	SONY CORP	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

10/565190

MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 A & B (06-03)


IAP12 REC'D PTO 20 JAN 2006
Complete if known

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)	
Application Number		Not Yet Assigned			
Confirmation Number		Not Yet Assigned			
Filing Date		January 20, 2006			
First Named Inventor		Masahiro NOMURA			
Art Unit		Not Yet Assigned			
Examiner Name		Not Yet Assigned			
Attorney Docket Number		Q92733			
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
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		JP	7-287699	A	10-31-1995	HITACHI LTD	Abstract
		JP	11-39868	A	02-12-1999	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Abstract
		JP	11-41090	A	02-12-1999	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	Abstract
		JP	2003-78405	A	03-14-2003	TOSHIBA CORP	Abstract
		JP	9-148914	A	06-06-1997	SONY CORP	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	05-29-07
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are all the claims originally pending in the application. By this amendment, Applicants cancel claims 13, 15-17. Applicants add new claims 18-26.

Preliminary Matters

Applicants note that the Examiner has indicated consideration of three out of the six references submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of January 20, 2006. The Examiner has not indicated consideration of the three documents cited in the International Preliminary Search Report. Applicants refer back to the Information Disclosure Statement of January 20, 2006, which clearly stated that it is assumed the International Bureau will provide the Examiner with copies of the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER) and the references cited in the IPER. Applicants submit herewith courtesy copies of IPER and the reference cited in the IPER. Applicants also submit a copy of the PTO form 1449 and request the Examiner to initial all the references and indicate the Examiner's consideration of the same.

Applicants also note that the Examiner has acknowledged the claim to foreign priority and has acknowledged receipt of a certified copy of the priority document.

Amendments to the Specification

The Specification has been amended to correct clerical errors as shown in the Amendments to the Specification section. No new matter has been presented.

Amendments to the Drawings

Applicants submit Replacement drawings for some Figures to correct an informality. No new matter has been presented. The Examiner is requested to acknowledge receipt of the corrected drawings.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 1 and its dependent claims

The Office Action alleges that the group of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 10, and 14 are indefinite because it is not clear to the Examiner what drawing this group of claims reads on. See Office Action page 2. The Office Action further alleges that claim 1 reads on Fig. 22, whereas its dependent claims 7 and 14 read on Fig. 24. See Office Action page 4.

Applicants respectfully disagree that claim 1 does not read on Fig. 24. Claim 1 reads on *at least* Figures 6, 12, 13, and 24. Therefore, the group of claims including claim 1 and depending from claim 1 are not indefinite.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

Claim 3 and its dependent claims

The Office Action alleges that claim 3 reads on Fig. 16, whereas its dependent claims 11 and 15 read on Figures 13 and 24 respectively. See Office Action page 4.

Claim 3 reads on *at least* Figures 16 and 22. Claim 11 reads at least on Figures 13 and 22. Claim 15 has been canceled. Therefore, the group of claims including claim 3 and depending from claim 3 are not indefinite.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

Claim 4 and its dependent claims

The Office Action alleges that claim 4 reads on Fig. 31, whereas its dependent claim 17 reads on Figure 24. See Office Action page 4.

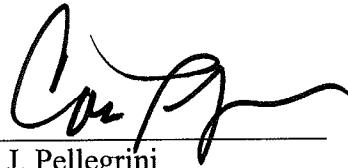
Claim 4 reads on *at least* Figures 31 and 47. Claim 17 has been canceled. Therefore, the group of claims including claim 4 and depending from claim 4 are not indefinite.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 14, 2007



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